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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 21, 2014**

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**McHenry County, IL**

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**FY15 Budget Summary**

**WOODSTOCK, IL,** At their Tuesday, October 21st evening meeting, the McHenry County Board placed on public review their proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15), which will begin on December 1, 2014. The budget is anticipated to be adopted at the County Board's evening meeting on Tuesday, November 18. The FY15 Budget will be the smallest budget passed in eight years.

Highlights of the proposed FY15 Budget are noted below.

- In developing the FY15 Budget, McHenry County maintained the professional, conservative approach to budgeting that earned an Aaa bond rating from Moody's Investor Services. McHenry County is one of only three counties in Illinois (also Lake & DuPage) to have earned in this distinction.
- The proposed FY15 Budget is \$234,375,184. This compares to the current FY14 Budget which was approved at \$243,915,728.
- In developing the FY15 Budget, the County is responding to a revenue environment that continues to be challenging with a corresponding control on expenses.
  - A balanced budget is presented
  - The six (6) month reserve is preserved
  - Key fund balances are maintained
  - General equity between non-union and union employees compensation increases are maintained
  - The use of inflationary growth in the property tax extension has once again not been utilized in the FY15 Budget

The new budget continues to service all of our operations without significant cuts in services or programs. The one exception is the Federal Jail Bed Rental Program. This program is budgeted to phase out near the end of FY15 unless a new relationship with the Federal Government can be established. New programs and capital projects are essentially non-existent in order to reduce the burden on the FY15 Budget. Additionally, McHenry County has again reduced the employee roster for the fifth year in a row.

A copy of the proposed McHenry County FY15 Budget can be found in the County Clerk's Office or on the County's website at: [www.co.mchenry.il.us](http://www.co.mchenry.il.us). For more information please contact Heather Winter at 815-334-0309 or [hawinter@co.mchenry.il.us](mailto:hawinter@co.mchenry.il.us).

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***"To provide administrative support and implement policies and directives as determined by the county board."***